

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-7 (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an electroluminescent device[[,]] comprising a transparent or translucent support, a transparent or translucent first electrode, a second conductive electrode and an electroluminescent phosphor layer sandwiched between said transparent or translucent first electrode and said second conductive electrode, wherein said first and second electrodes each comprises a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene, which may be the same or different, in which said two alkoxy groups may be the same or different or together represent an optionally substituted oxy-alkylene-oxy bridge, the process comprising the steps of: (i) coating a transparent or translucent support with a solution, a dispersion or a paste of a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene to produce said transparent or translucent first conductive layer; (ii) coating said first conductive layer with a layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor; (iii) coating said layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor with a dielectric layer; and (iv) coating said dielectric layer with a solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene to produce said second conductive layer, wherein said polymer or copolymer of said 3,4-dialkoxythiophene in the solution, dispersion or paste used in step (i) may be the same or different from said polymer or copolymer of said 3,4-dialkoxythiophene used in the solution, dispersion or paste used in step (iv).

9. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 8, wherein said paste is an aqueous paste.

10. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 8, wherein said solution or dispersion is an aqueous solution or dispersion.

11. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an electroluminescent device[[,]] comprising a transparent or translucent support, a transparent or translucent first electrode, a second conductive electrode and an electroluminescent phosphor layer sandwiched between said transparent or translucent first electrode and said second conductive electrode, wherein said first and second electrodes each comprises a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene, which may be the same or different, in which said two alkoxy

groups may be the same or different or together represent an optionally substituted oxy-alkylene-oxy bridge, the process comprising the steps of: (i) coating a support with a solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) to produce said second conductive layer; (ii) coating said second conductive layer with a dielectric layer; (iii) coating said dielectric layer with a layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor; and (iv) coating said layer comprising said electroluminescent phosphor with a transparent solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) to produce said transparent or translucent first conductive layer, wherein said polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) in said solution, dispersion or paste used in step (i) may be the same or different from said polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) used in said transparent solution, dispersion or paste used in step (iv).

12. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 11, wherein said paste is an aqueous paste.

13. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 11, wherein said transparent paste is an aqueous transparent paste.

14. (Original) A process comprising the steps of: using a transparent paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene, a polyacrylate thickener and a glycol derivative, and optionally a surfactant for producing an electrode of an electroluminescent device comprising a transparent or translucent support, a transparent or translucent first electrode, a second conductive electrode and an electroluminescent phosphor layer sandwiched between said transparent or translucent first electrode and said second conductive electrode, wherein said first and second electrodes each comprises a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene, which may be the same or different, in which said two alkoxy groups may be the same or different or together represent an optionally substituted oxy-alkylene-oxy bridge.

15. (Currently Amended) A process comprising the steps of: ~~using~~ providing an electroluminescent device[[,]] comprising a transparent or translucent support, a transparent or translucent first electrode, a second conductive electrode and an electroluminescent

phosphor layer sandwiched between said transparent or translucent first electrode and said second conductive electrode; and preparing an illuminated poster or signage which comprises said electroluminescent device, wherein said first and second electrodes each comprises a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene, which may be the same or different, in which said two alkoxy groups may be the same or different or together represent an optionally substituted oxy-alkylene-oxy bridge, ~~in illuminated posters and signage.~~

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an electroluminescent device comprising a transparent or translucent support, a transparent or translucent first electrode, a second conductive electrode and an electroluminescent phosphor layer sandwiched between said transparent or translucent first electrode and said second conductive electrode, wherein said first and second electrodes each comprises a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene, which may be the same or different, in which said two alkoxy groups ~~are represented by OR^1 and OR^2 wherein each of R^1 and R^2 independently represents a C1-C4 alkyl group or together represent an optionally substituted C1-C4 alkylene group or a cycloalkylene group~~, the process comprising the steps of: (i) coating a transparent or translucent support with a solution, a dispersion or a paste of a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene to produce said transparent or translucent first conductive layer; (ii) coating said first conductive layer with a layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor; (iii) optionally coating said layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor with a dielectric layer; and (iv) optionally coating said dielectric layer if present, or said layer comprising the electroluminescent phosphor if no dielectric layer is present, with a solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene to produce said second conductive layer, wherein said polymer or copolymer of said 3,4-dialkoxythiophene in the solution, dispersion or paste used in step (i) may be the same or different from said polymer or copolymer of said 3,4-dialkoxythiophene used in the solution, dispersion or paste used in step (iv), wherein said paste is an aqueous paste.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an electroluminescent device comprising a transparent or translucent support, a transparent or translucent first electrode, a second conductive electrode and an electroluminescent phosphor layer sandwiched between said transparent or translucent first electrode and said second conductive electrode, wherein said first and second electrodes each comprises a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxy-thiophene, which may be the same or different, in which said two alkoxy groups are ~~represented by OR^1 and OR^2 where each of R^1 and R^2 independently represents a C1-C4 alkyl group or together~~ represent an optionally substituted C1-C4 alkylene group or a cycloalkylene group, the process comprising the steps of: (i) coating a support with a solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) to produce said second conductive layer; (ii) optionally coating said second conductive layer with a dielectric layer; (iii) coating said dielectric layer if present, or said second conductive layer if no dielectric layer is present, with a layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor; and (iv) coating said layer comprising said electroluminescent phosphor with a transparent solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) to produce said transparent or translucent first conductive layer, wherein said polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) in said solution, dispersion or paste used in step (i) may be the same or different from said polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) used in said transparent solution, dispersion or paste used in step (iv), wherein said paste is an aqueous paste.

21. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an electroluminescent device[[,]] comprising a transparent or translucent support, a transparent or translucent first electrode, a second conductive electrode and an electroluminescent phosphor layer sandwiched between said transparent or translucent first electrode and said second conductive electrode, wherein said first and second electrodes each comprises a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxy-thiophene, which may be the same or different, in which said two alkoxy groups are ~~represented by OR^1 and OR^2 wherein each of R^1 and R^2 independently represents a C1-C4 alkyl group or together~~ represent an optionally substituted C1-C4 alkylene group or a cycloalkylene group, the process comprising the steps of: (i) coating a support with a solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) to produce said second conductive layer; (ii) optionally coating said second conductive layer with a dielectric layer; (iii) coating said dielectric layer if present, or said second conductive layer if no dielectric layer is present, with a layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor; and (iv) coating said layer comprising said

electroluminescent phosphor with a transparent solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) to produce said transparent or translucent first conductive layer, wherein said polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) in said solution, dispersion or paste used in step (i) may be the same or different from said polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) used in said transparent solution, dispersion or paste used in step (iv), wherein said paste is an aqueous paste.

22. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an electroluminescent device[[,]] comprising a transparent or translucent support, a transparent or translucent first electrode, a second conductive electrode and an electroluminescent phosphor layer sandwiched between said transparent or translucent first electrode and said second conductive electrode, wherein said first and second electrodes each comprises a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene, which may be the same or different, in which said two alkoxy groups may be the same or different or together represent an optionally substituted oxy-alkylene-oxy bridge, the process comprising the steps of: (i) coating a transparent or translucent support with a solution, a dispersion or a paste of a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene to produce said transparent or translucent first conductive layer; (ii) coating said first conductive layer with a layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor; (iii) optionally coating said layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor with a dielectric layer; and (iv) coating said dielectric layer if present, or said layer comprising the electroluminescent phosphor if no dielectric layer is present, with a solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene to produce said conductive layer, wherein said polymer or copolymer of said 3,4-dialkoxythiophene in the solution, dispersion or paste used in step (i) may be the same or different from said polymer or copolymer of said 3,4-dialkoxythiophene used in the solution, dispersion or paste used in step (iv) and wherein said electroluminescent phosphor belongs to the class of II-VI semiconductors or is a combination of a group II element with an oxidic anion.

23. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 22, wherein said paste is an aqueous paste.

24. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an electroluminescent device[[,]] comprising a transparent or translucent support, a transparent or translucent first electrode, a second conductive electrode and an electroluminescent phosphor layer

sandwiched between said transparent or translucent first electrode and said second conductive electrode, wherein said first and second electrodes each comprises a polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene), which may be the same or different, in which said two alkoxy groups may be the same or different or together represent an optionally substituted oxy-alkylene-oxy bridge, the process comprising the steps of: (i) coating a support with a solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) to produce said second conductive layer; (ii) optionally coating said second conductive layer with a dielectric layer; (iii) coating said dielectric layer if present, or said second conductive layer if no dielectric layer is present, with a layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor; and (iv) coating said layer comprising said electroluminescent phosphor with a transparent solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) to produce said transparent or translucent first conductive layer, wherein said polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) in said solution, dispersion or paste used in step (i) may be the same or different from said polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) used in said transparent solution, dispersion or paste used in step (iv) and wherein said electroluminescent phosphor belongs to the class of II-VI semiconductors or is a combination of a group II element with an oxidic anion.

25. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 24, wherein said transparent solution or dispersion is an aqueous solution or dispersion.

26. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 24, wherein said paste is an aqueous paste.

27. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 24, wherein said transparent paste is an aqueous paste transparent paste.

28. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an electroluminescent device[[,]] comprising a transparent or translucent support, a transparent or translucent first electrode, a second conductive electrode and an electroluminescent phosphor layer sandwiched between said transparent or translucent first electrode and said second conductive electrode, wherein said first and second electrodes each comprises a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene, which may be the same or different, in which said two alkoxy groups may be the same or

different or together represent an optionally substituted oxy-alkylene-oxy bridge, the process comprising the steps of: (i) coating a transparent or translucent support with a solution, a dispersion or a paste of a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene to produce said transparent or translucent first conductive layer; (ii) coating said first conductive layer with a layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor; (iii) optionally coating said layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor with a dielectric layer; and (iv) coating said dielectric layer if present, or said layer comprising the electroluminescent phosphor if no dielectric layer is present, with a solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene to produce said conductive layer, wherein said polymer or copolymer of said 3,4-dialkoxythiophene in the solution, dispersion or paste used in step (i) may be the same or different from said polymer or copolymer of said 3,4-dialkoxythiophene used in the solution, dispersion or paste used in step (iv) and wherein at least one of said two electrodes further comprises a polyanion compound.

29. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an electroluminescent device[[.]] comprising a transparent or translucent support, a transparent or translucent first electrode, a second conductive electrode and an electroluminescent phosphor layer sandwiched between said transparent or translucent first electrode and said second conductive electrode, wherein said first and second electrodes each comprises a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene, which may be the same or different, in which said two alkoxy groups may be the same or different or together represent an optionally substituted oxy-alkylene-oxy bridge, the process comprising the steps of: (i) coating a support with a solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) to produce said second conductive layer; (ii) optionally coating said second conductive layer with a dielectric layer; (iii) coating said dielectric layer if present, or said second conductive layer if no dielectric layer is present, with a layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor; and (iv) coating said layer comprising said electroluminescent phosphor with a transparent solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) to produce said transparent or translucent first conductive layer, wherein said polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) in said solution, dispersion or paste used in step (i) may be the same or different from said polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene)

used in said transparent solution, dispersion or paste used in step (iv) and wherein at least one of said two electrodes further comprises a polyanion compound.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 28, wherein said paste is an aqueous paste.

33. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 28, wherein said transparent solution or dispersion is an aqueous solution or dispersion.

34. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 29, wherein said paste is an aqueous paste.]

35. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 29, wherein said paste transparent paste is an aqueous transparent paste.

36. (New) A process comprising the steps of: providing an electroluminescent device comprising a transparent or translucent support, a transparent or translucent first electrode, a second conductive electrode and an electroluminescent phosphor layer sandwiched between said transparent or translucent first electrode and said second conductive electrode; and preparing an illuminated poster or signage which comprises said electroluminescent device, wherein said first and second electrodes each comprises a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene, which may be the same or different, in which said two alkoxy groups together represent an optionally substituted oxy-alkylene-oxy bridge.

37. (New) A process for producing an electroluminescent device which comprises a transparent or translucent support, a transparent or translucent first electrode, a second conductive electrode and an electroluminescent phosphor layer sandwiched between said transparent or translucent first electrode and said second conductive electrode, wherein said first and second electrodes each comprises a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene, which may be the same or different, in which said two alkoxy groups are represented by $-OR_1$ and $-OR_2$ where each of R_1 and R_2 independently represents a C1-C4

alkyl group, the process comprising the steps of: (i) coating a transparent or translucent support with a solution, a dispersion or a paste of a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene to produce said transparent or translucent first conductive layer; (ii) coating said first conductive layer with a layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor; (iii) optionally coating said layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor with a dielectric layer; and (iv) optionally coating said dielectric layer if present, or said layer comprising the electroluminescent phosphor if no dielectric layer is present, with a solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene to produce said second conductive layer, wherein said polymer or copolymer of said 3,4-dialkoxythiophene in the solution, dispersion or paste used in step (i) may be the same or different from said polymer or copolymer of said 3,4-dialkoxythiophene used in the solution, dispersion or paste used in step (iv), wherein said paste is an aqueous paste.

38. (New) A process for producing an electroluminescent device comprising a transparent or translucent support, a transparent or translucent first electrode, a second conductive electrode and an electroluminescent phosphor layer sandwiched between said transparent or translucent first electrode and said second conductive electrode, wherein said first and second electrodes each comprises a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene, which may be the same or different, in which said two alkoxy groups are represented by $-OR_1$ and $-OR_2$ where each of R_1 and R_2 independently represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, the process comprising the steps of: (i) coating a support with a solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) to produce said second conductive layer; (ii) optionally coating said second conductive layer with a dielectric layer; (iii) coating said dielectric layer if present, or said second conductive layer if no dielectric layer is present, with a layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor; and (iv) coating said layer comprising said electroluminescent phosphor with a transparent solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) to produce said transparent or translucent first conductive layer, wherein said polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) in said solution, dispersion or paste used in step (i) may be the same or different from said polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) used in said transparent solution, dispersion or paste used in step (iv), wherein said paste is an aqueous paste.

39. (New) A process for producing an electroluminescent device comprising a transparent or translucent support, a transparent or translucent first electrode, a second conductive electrode and an electroluminescent phosphor layer sandwiched between said transparent or translucent first electrode and said second conductive electrode, wherein said first and second electrodes each comprises a polymer or copolymer of a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene, which may be the same or different, in which said two alkoxy groups are represented by –OR1 and –OR2 where each of R1 and R2 independently represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, the process comprising the steps of: (i) coating a support with a solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) to produce said second conductive layer; (ii) optionally coating said second conductive layer with a dielectric layer; (iii) coating said dielectric layer if present, or said second conductive layer if no dielectric layer is present, with a layer comprising an electroluminescent phosphor; and (iv) coating said layer comprising said electroluminescent phosphor with a transparent solution, dispersion or paste comprising a polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) to produce said transparent or translucent first conductive layer, wherein said polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) in said solution, dispersion or paste used in step (i) may be the same or different from said polymer or copolymer of a (3,4-dialkoxythiophene) used in said transparent solution, dispersion or paste used in step (iv), wherein said transparent paste is an aqueous transparent paste.

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.